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EDITORIAL

Report has it that the new officers of the American Red Cross are about to curtail seriously the plans for co-operation with the schools which the Junior Red Cross has so carefully laid out during the past year. If this happens there will be a loss beyond computation.

**By Bread
Alone**

The American Red Cross was first known as a relief organization. It came to the rescue in times of emergency and gave first aid. Ambulances and bandages and the image of the sufferer came to mind when the name was mentioned. Indeed some still think of it as merely an auxiliary of the army in time of actual conflict. But lately a broader conception was beginning to prevail. The symbol of the cross was seen to have a deeper significance. It began to mean brotherhood, service, human sympathy, the prevention as well as the alleviation of suffering.

This was particularly true of the division of junior membership, known as the Junior Red Cross. Following the war, the leaders of this division projected a peace-time program based on the idea of civic training through service. It was a program which appealed instantly and strongly to all who were concerned with the education of children, for they saw in it unlimited possibilities of realizing the deeper purposes of the school.

One of the principal features of the program was that of inter-school correspondence, exchange of letters between classes in America and other classes both here and abroad. A technique for handling such correspondence was developed, and bureaus were organized both in Washington and in Paris. School authorities were approached and responded with enthusiasm. Correspondence began, and the first fruits more than justified all expectations. No phase of the entire Red Cross program was received with greater enthusiasm either by the schools or by the public at large.

Recently the management of the Red Cross has undergone a radical change. Leaders who can see only the historic functions

in their narrower interpretation have suddenly come into power. There is a cry for economy, and naturally the newest activities are among the first to be curtailed. There is a prospect that one of the most promising movements for the development of Americans who really know their own country and their neighbors abroad and who are able to appreciate their strength and their weakness will be crushed before it has fairly begun. And unfortunately the harm may be consummated before an aroused public sentiment can reach the seat of the trouble. Perhaps if Red Cross representatives everywhere could be made to realize in time the effect upon its revenues of any step which so seriously diminishes the value of the organization to the schools, which have always been among its chief supporters, the matter would appear in another light.

This year, for the first time, the voting body of the N.E.A. is to be composed of delegates elected by its affiliated state and local associations. Any local educational society may upon the payment of \$5.00 become a Local Affiliated Association, entitled to send one delegate for each hundred or major fraction thereof of its members who are active members of the N.E.A. No person shall vote in more than one Affiliated Local Association. He may, it seems, vote in both an Affiliated State Association and an Affiliated Local Association.

Here seems to be an opportunity for many local English groups to secure a direct voice in the conduct of the national teachers' body. The possible gains from their doing so—gains both in prestige and indirect furtherance of the cause of English—are too evident to need exposition. What enterprising group will be first to report its action upon this suggestion?

Safety requires that the name of the author appear *upon the sheets* of any manuscript submitted to others. At present the *Journal* is compelled to delay the publication of an excellent article called "Golden Numbers" because the writer's name has been lost. When you send in that article you have been incubating put your name on the back of each sheet.

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